

Ripped from the ROUNDUP

Ripped straight from the pages of old Space News Roundups, here's what happened at JSC on this date:

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A Rhesus monkey who traveled 53.03 miles into outer space has been presented by the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine to the San Antonio Zoo.

Sam, who was named after the School of Aviation Medicine (SAM), was born at Randolph Air Force Base in April 1957, where the school was located.

Sam was trained for his flight at several locations, including the University of Texas at Austin. He made his flight when he was 2 1/2, and weighed only 6 1/2 pounds. Today, at age 14, he weighs 40 pounds.

Col. Evan R. Goltra presented the monkeynaut to the zoo director, Louis DiSabato, in early May.

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A stronaut Alan Bean, the fourth man to set foot on the moon, will resign from NASA effective June 26 to devote full time to his career as an artist.

Bean said his decision was based on the fact that, in his 18 years as an astronaut, he visited worlds and saw sights no artist's eye has ever viewed firsthand, and he hopes to express these experiences through the medium of art.

Bean was among the third group of astronauts selected by NASA in the fall of 1963. He was the lunar module pilot on Apollo 12, man's second landing on the moon in November 1969. He and Pete Conrad explored the Ocean of Storm, while Dick Gordon circled in the command module.

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O peration Desert Storm called approximately 12,000 federal government employees to active duty from their jobs, and now, with the conflict in the Middle East over, those individuals are returning to civilian lives.

To help them readapt, the federal government has created a leave bank program that will distribute donated annual leave to the returning reservists, many of whom depleted their own leave accounts when called to active duty.

In the first week, JSC employees donated more than 300 hours. All leave donated throughout the federal government will be pooled and then distributed equally among all federal government employee reservists.

Thirteen employees were called to active duty. Seven have returned, while six are still on active duty.



Celebrate! American Heritage Week begins June 25

By Eric Raub

What does every "Team NASA" community member—including all civil servants, contractors, their friends and family—have in common?

Every one of these people has a heritage, though they may be very different. Also, they are all invited to enjoy the ninth annual American Heritage Week celebration. On Monday, June 25, organizers hope to promote unity and cooperation while celebrating the individual heritage of all people in the NASA community.

American Heritage Week was started eight years ago by the Equal Opportunity Programs Office (EOPO) as an attempt to celebrate

the uniqueness of all cultures at the same time. While the EOPO is also in charge of coordinating events aimed at recognizing specific

groups, they view American Heritage Week as an opportunity for everyone to gather, celebrate their culture and build a stronger sense of community with a better understanding of each other.

"American Heritage Week is a chance to interact multiculturally and turn the spotlight on the many diverse heritages represented in the 'Team NASA' community," said Estella Hernandez Gillette, Director of the EOPO. "This helps us understand each other better, and reinforce the strength, community and partnership we all bring to the common objective of a successful space program."

Of course, American Heritage Week is also a chance to have fun. This year's festivities will include a children's art activity.



Children ages 3-12 are invited to exercise their creativity in making a design reflecting this year's theme: "Working Together, Defying the Laws of the Universe to Make Ideas Happen." Entry forms will be available throughout JSC,

at some contractor locations and on the web. Each entry will be awarded a ribbon.

The weeklong celebration begins with musical performances in the Building 3 cafeteria. Another performance will follow on Thursday, with multicultural exhibits on Tuesday and Wednesday. On Friday the winning children's art will be put on display.

American Heritage Week has always tried to go out with a bang, and this year's celebration promises to be no exception. The Grand Finale Day activities will begin with the opening ceremonies at 3:30 p.m. in the Gilruth Center. Multicultural performances will begin at 4 p.m. in the Alamo Ballroom and continue until 7.

Other activities include astronaut signing in the San Jacinto room and the commercialization trailer out in the parking lot,



showing how technology transfer has sent NASA knowledge and equipment out into the world.

Food and fun go hand in hand at the Grand Finale. Across from the ballroom in the gym there will be hot dogs, popcorn, cotton candy, beer

and soft drinks. Contractors will also have booths to show their business off.

American Heritage Week, like all other events, needs people to help it run smoothly and ensure everyone has a good time. Volunteers are welcome, and organizations wishing to participate can get more information on the event from the EOPO at (281) 483-0601.

For more information on American Heritage Week or the children's art activity, visit: <http://www4.jsc.nasa.gov/EOPO/>



Juneteenth Observation

J. Paul Jr. & the Zydeco Nubreedz



Juneteenth began in Texas when Major General Gordon Granger of the Union Army led his troops into the city of Galveston. There, on June 19, 1865, he officially proclaimed freedom for slaves in the state.

Granger's ride through Galveston culminated a two-and-a-half year trek through America's Deep South. Many states, parishes and counties had been excluded from learning of President

Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, leaving millions of African-American slaves without their freedom. It was on this date the African-American slaves of Texas and other parts of the South celebrated the final implementation of the Emancipation Proclamation, giving them their freedom forever.

The former slaves of Galveston were quick to establish what was to become a tradition for African-American communities across the United States. On the evening of June 19, 1865, thousands flooded the streets of Galveston, rejoicing in their newly announced freedom. The sweet smell of barbecue smoke filled the air. Dancing feet pounded the dirt roads and harmonic voices sung spirituals. This was the day, Juneteenth, that would forever commemorate African American Freedom.

In observation of Juneteenth at JSC,

J. Paul Jr. & the Zydeco Nubreedz will perform Tuesday, June 19, outside by the Building 3 cafeteria from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

J. Paul Jr. is the self-proclaimed "Zydeco Rebel" and hails from Houston. His five-piece band, Nubreedz, backs him. This group combines the widely diverse elements of funk, rap, gospel, R&B, rock and traditional Cajun. Zydeco is the traditional dance music of the Creole people of Southwest Louisiana. It traces its heritage back to the Caribbean and Cajun influences of Louisiana's black population.

J. Paul Jr. & the Zydeco Nubreedz have a new CD entitled "Who Do You Love?" The release date for this CD will be in August. There will be a few available at the Juneteenth observance.

For more information on J. Paul Jr. & the Zydeco Nubreedz performance dates, their Web site address is www.jpauljr.com. ■